

Serial No.: 09/785,785

Amendment Date: February 21, 2003

CLEAN COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS:

Sub D
1. A base module for removably receiving a disposable filter cartridge to form a filter assembly, said base module comprising:

a body defining a cartridge receptacle and a central axial opening surrounded by a coaxial lip;

a mounting bracket extending from said body for mounting said base module to a vehicle;

a communication module receivable in said body central axial opening at a plurality of angular orientations to said body, said communication module including a skirt which mates with said lip, an inlet conduit extending axially into said receptacle, a corresponding inlet fitting defining a fluid passageway extending away from said receptacle and an outlet fitting defining a fluid passageway extending away from said receptacle,

wherein said communication module is received in said body and fixed to said body to form said base module.

Sub D
11. A base module for a filter assembly comprising:

a body defining a cartridge receptacle and a central opening;

a mounting bracket extending from said body for mounting said base module to a vehicle;

a communication module configured to be received in said central opening and comprising inlet and outlet conduits extending axially into said receptacle and corresponding inlet and outlet connectors extending axially away from said receptacle, said connectors being in fluid communication with said inlet and outlet conduits,

wherein said communication module is receivable in said central opening at a plurality of angular orientations to said body and fixable to said body at an angular orientation selected from said plurality of angular orientations.